



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### HARRIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT UNANIMOUSLY APPROVES NEW HARRIS COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN

**(Harris County, November 3, 2023)** - On Tuesday, Harris County Commissioners Court unanimously approved the launch of a countywide strategic planning process that aims to provide a vision for Harris County's future that aligns budgeting with priorities, supports further transparency in County operations and works with the public, and connects County employees' work to the County's strategic direction. This plan will represent a collective commitment of Commissioners Court and County departments, with valuable input from the community as well.

"Launching a countywide strategic planning process is a big win for everyone in Harris County, from residents to our over 20,000 employees. Strategic planning sounds like a no-brainer for a county government of our size, but this is the kind of policy that Harris County has never had before. After years of work, this is the next step in building a county government that can track the success of its initiatives and pivot where necessary," **said Judge Hidalgo**

"A county as large, complex, and diverse as ours requires bold goals and a clear vision and plan to achieve those goals. I am proud that this Court voted to approve embarking on a true strategic planning effort that will yield a roadmap for continuing our journey towards a safer, healthier, more equitable Harris County." **Commissioner Rodney Ellis, Harris County Precinct 1.**

"It is critical for good government that we be clear and transparent in defining and measuring what we're trying to accomplish," **said Commissioner Lesley Briones, Harris County Precinct 4.** "This County strategic plan--which will be created with a deep focus on community engagement--is a way for the people of Harris County to help define success and hold us accountable. I look forward to working with Administrator Ramirez, fellow Court members, and the community to develop an actionable strategic plan to drive Harris County forward."

"We are excited to launch this strategic planning process, which will enhance alignment, collaboration, and effective spending while further increasing transparency and accountability to Harris County residents," **said Diana Ramirez, Harris County Administrator.** "With valued input from all levels of employees, management, and the community, this plan can serve as our 'North Star,' guiding our County toward a more equitable and resilient future."

The strategic plan will likely include an updated County mission and vision; the creation of guiding principles; targeted goals, objectives, and strategies; and performance measures that focus on leading indicators. The ultimate goal of this five-year strategic plan is to have a budget that accurately reflects the County's priorities, fostering collaboration and alignment among all County departments and stakeholders.

The approved timeline outlines two phases, with Phase 1 starting immediately and including facilitated discussions with departments and the Commissioners Court, followed by drafting of the strategic plan. Phase 2, running from April to December of 2024, will focus on working with departments to further align their work with the countywide strategic plan. Throughout the process, the County will seek input from the community in various formats to ensure broad and equitable engagement. To view the full PowerPoint presentation click [here](#).

Further details about the strategic plan and its progress will be presented to the Commissioners Court on December 5th.

**About the Office of County Administration:** Established by Commissioners Court in June 2021, the Office of County Administration (OCA) is tasked with supervising day-to-day operations and implementing Commissioners Court's priorities and policies for Harris County. For more information, visit [oca.harriscountytexas.gov](http://oca.harriscountytexas.gov).

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